
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4043

State of Washington 54th Legislature 1996 Regular Session

By Representatives Pennington, Basich, Fuhrman, Hatfield, Regala, Johnson, Robertson, Jacobsen, Hankins, Morris, Buck, Beeksma, Smith, Pelesky, Hargrove, Schoesler, Foreman, Hickel, Mitchell, Silver, Blanton, Ballasiotes, Carrell, Mulliken, Radcliff, Skinner, Hymes, Goldsmith, McMahan, Linville, D. Sommers, Conway, Scheuerman, Keiser, McMorris and Stevens

Read first time 2-23-96.

1 TO THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
2 STATES, AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
3 OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, The proposed conference mark for Mitchell Act funds is
9 three and one-half million dollars less than the previous fiscal year;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, This proposed cut to Mitchell Act funds is in addition to
12 cuts to this fund source over the past several years; and

13 WHEREAS, The Mitchell Act was created to mitigate for the loss of
14 naturally spawning salmon due to the federal power system developed on
15 the Columbia River; and

16 WHEREAS, A reduction in Mitchell Act funds will significantly
17 reduce the quantity of hatchery-produced salmon produced in the
18 Columbia River; and

19 WHEREAS, Reduced Mitchell Act funding will make it significantly
20 more difficult to enter into an equitable treaty with Canada under the

1 United States/Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty and will result in increased
2 levels of wild salmon being harvested by Canadian fishers; and

3 WHEREAS, Commercial fishing families already hard hit by the
4 effects of adverse ocean conditions, endangered species act
5 restrictions, and recent natural disasters will be dealt yet another
6 blow if full Mitchell Act funding is not restored; and

7 WHEREAS, Local economies dependent on cash inflow from recreational
8 fishing activity will also be severely impacted by the effects of
9 reduced Mitchell Act funding; and

10 WHEREAS, Federal funding for fish hatcheries on the Columbia River
11 is of critical importance to the states of Washington, Oregon, and
12 Idaho;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that full
14 Mitchell Act funding of eighteen and one-half million dollars be
15 restored.

16 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
17 transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the
18 United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker
19 of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the
20 State of Washington.

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